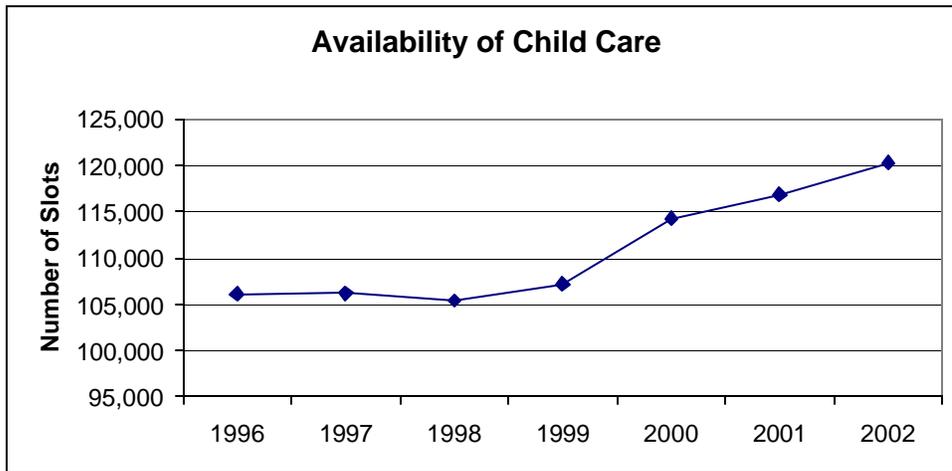


State Results and Indicators

Secure and Nurturing Child Care Environments

Research shows that high quality early care environments are positively related to children's later language, math, and behavior skills. Empowerment early childhood funds are targeted for specific quality enhancement activities. Technical assistance through training and mentoring helps child care providers deliver better care and education. Through Community Empowerment efforts, the numbers of centers, teachers, and family child care providers who participate in quality improvement activities have increased.



- Iowa ranks 2nd in the nation with the number of young children of working parents in child care - 79% of the children under 6 years of age
 - More than 188,000 children under the age of 4 need child care
 - More than 5000 home child care providers are registered; it is estimated there are three times as many non-registered providers
 - The new child development home legislation focuses on improved quality, safety and flexibility for registered providers
- Source: Child Care Home Regulation Work Group

